

Appl. No. 09/930,804

Amdt. Dated: February 4, 2005

Response to Office action dated: December 14, 2004

Amendments to the Abstract:

Please amend the abstract as follows:

A variable size first in first out (FIFO) FIFO memory is provided, ~~by the use of~~ The variable size FIFO memory may include head and tail FIFO memories operating at a very high data rate and ~~then~~ an off chip buffer memory. The off chip buffer memory may be, for example, of a dynamic RAM type, ~~[[, which]]~~ The off chip buffer memory may temporarily stores store data packets when both head and tail FIFO memories are full filled. Data blocks of each of the memories ~~are the~~ may be the same size for efficient transfer of data. After a sudden data burst which causes memory overflow ceases, the head and tail FIFO memories return to ~~the~~ their initial functions with the head FIFO memory directly receiving high speed data and transmitting it to various switching element and the tail FIFO memory ~~stores~~ storing temporary overflows of data from the head FIFO memory.